

Reopening Schools FAQs – August 13, 2020

Many follow up questions from staff and students have been received regarding staff/students who either have symptoms of COVID or been around someone with COVID. Please see the latest information from the state that can be found in [Addendum 2 of version 3 of the reopening plan](#).

Information Regarding Governor's Quarantine Orders:

As we approach the beginning of the school year, we ask that parents/guardians be aware of the expectations for travel quarantines. **Students CANNOT start school if they have traveled to an affected state for more than 24 hours within 14 days of the start of school.** More information about mandatory quarantines can be found at [Executive Order Regarding Travel](#).

Distance Learning Opt In and Return to School

If a parent didn't select distance learning at the beginning of the school year, can they still opt into distance learning at any time?

Yes, families that can opt into temporary distance learning at any time. If families select voluntary distance learning during periods of on campus or hybrid learning, they will be asked to fill out the district's Distance Learning Form for their student(s) – [Distance Learning Opt In Form](#)

How can I opt out of distance learning during the year and return to school?

Students learning from home may choose to return to campus at any time. School personnel will be available to determine a mutually agreed upon re-entry date. Parents are asked to provide a reasonable notification (up to 2 weeks) to the school office so that preparations may be made to accommodate all learners safely.

Cohorts

What will the cohorts be?

Cohorts will be alphabetical – beginning of the alphabet will be Cohort A (Monday, Tuesday on campus), end of the alphabet will be Cohort B (Thursday, Friday on campus). Specific breakdown and information will be sent out from school administrators by the end of the week to all families outlining students' cohorts and schedules.

What if I have a significant conflict with my assigned cohort days? What do I do if my child's assigned cohort is problematic with my work or family schedule?

We will make every effort to accommodate cohorting your student based on the needs of your family including keeping siblings together on the same schedule as we return to school in the hybrid/partial opening phase. Please note that we will not be cohorting students based on social requests. Please contact your child's principal directly to discuss.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

When will protocols be available for parents/guardians to view in regards to "students needing physical assistance"? How will the cohort be affected if students receive services from specialists (i.e. PT, OT, School Psychologists)?

All staff will be appropriately outfitted with the proper PPE. As to specific protocols we are awaiting further guidance from the CSDE.

All staff will follow all safety procedures and wear masks. They will be mindful of their times in a class and out. They will attempt to schedule students at similar times and group students as needed, always being mindful of safety needs.

Any family who chooses distance learning will have live virtual schooling - this will be the same for special education and related services.

What protocols will be put in place for special needs students (especially in PreK/Kindergarten) to accommodate those with ADHD, and sensory disorders that need movement breaks without putting them at risk?

Teachers will be developing opportunities to allow students breaks as needed. Teachers are especially aware during this time that students will need breaks and will continue to accommodate any sensory needs of students.

Will parents/guardians be allowed to walk their special education students into the classroom for AM drop-off?

Generally speaking we will be greatly limiting parental access to school buildings during this year.

If Waterford starts the school year with a hybrid model of instruction this fall how will special education students be impacted?

Under consideration based on the CDC guidelines as well as individual student needs.

When will PPTs be held for those in distance learning to set goals and objectives?

A parent can request a PPT at any time. Please contact your child's principal for questions on the process.

How are you handling children with special needs if we return to a distance learning model?

If it was determined that we need to return to distance learning the district will continue to implement students' IEP's through the virtual learning model. Staff will work together to ensure the students IEP services are being implemented. Staff will meet and discuss student plans and of course, include parents in ensuring students are successful.

How do you plan to accommodate those staff or students who are high risk that have to attend in person?

We will follow all state and federal laws as it relates to high risk individuals in the workplace. Human Resources is currently engaging high risk staff. We are prepared for the fact there may be certain high-risk students and/or families who may require continuing remote instruction full time due to underlying health conditions, undergoing disease treatment, or those with family members who are at-risk.

Masks

Are masks with valves and/or vents allowed?

No. Per CDC guidance these are not effective in stopping the spread of COVID-19. These types will not be allowed.

Device Deployment Information

When will devices be available to be picked up for distance learning? How do we request an iPad?

With the district opening school in a hybrid model, we will be restarting device deployment. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.

Model Classrooms

Elementary Model Classroom



Clark Lane Middle School Model Classroom



Waterford High School Model Classroom



Meal Information During Distance Learning and Hybrid

Will meals still be available every day during hybrid and distance learning?

Yes, the Waterford School Dining & Nutrition Services is excited to provide weekly curbside meal pick-up for remote learners during hybrid learning and families who temporarily opt into distance learning. To receive meals parents/guardians will need to complete an online order form for each Waterford student who would like meal service. More information regarding the online order form will be provided in a future FAQ.

How do I order meals on days that my student is not on campus and distance learning?

Students in Cohort A (Monday/Tuesday on campus) – Meals can be purchased for in school on Monday or Tuesday. They may purchase curbside pickup meals via the online form for Wednesday, Thursday & Friday with pickup for all three days on Tuesday

Students in Cohort B (Thursday/Friday on campus) – Meals can be purchased for in school on Thursday or Friday. They may purchase curbside pickup meals via the online form for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with pickup for all three days on Monday.

There will be NO SCHOOL OR MEAL PICKUPS ON Wednesday.

Meal costs and payments

Meals will be charged to the student's account according to the student's eligibility status of the free & reduced program and/or the eligibility designation of their home school (Full pay, Reduced or Free).

Payments by check in a sealed envelope with student name/school grade can be made on-site. No cash transactions are being accepted at this time.

Student's meal accounts can be setup at: mypaymentsplus.com.

Meal prices can be found on the district website at https://www.waterfordschools.org/parents_family/food_services/menu_prices.

Meal pick-up process

Meals can be picked up at our one curbside location for all schools at Clark Lane Middle School, 105 Clark Lane, Waterford. Curbside pickup is an easy process – 1) Follow signs at CL for meal pickup, 2) pull up to the curb, 3) Stay in your vehicle, pop your trunk, 4) Roll down your window, hold up proof of enrollment, give child's name, school & # of meals ordered, 5) Staff will place the number of meals you requested in your trunk, 6) Follow refrigeration/reheat instructions provided. Please note that Parents/guardians will need to show proof of enrollment at meal pickup i.e. Student ID, Report Card, etc.

Are meals available to any child under 19 years of age as was allowed during the spring 2020 semester and summer meal service?

No, the meals will only be available to enrolled students at this time.

How will meals be packaged?

Meals will be packaged in takeout containers /plastic bags with reheat instructions included.

What if my students require a diet modification?

Contact: Dianne Houlihan, Director of School Dining and Nutrition Services at 860-444-5862